

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

July 11, 2008

Mr. Eldon Gould
Administrator
Risk Management Agency
1400 Independence Avenue, SW
Washington, DC 20250

RE: Oyster Crop Insurance

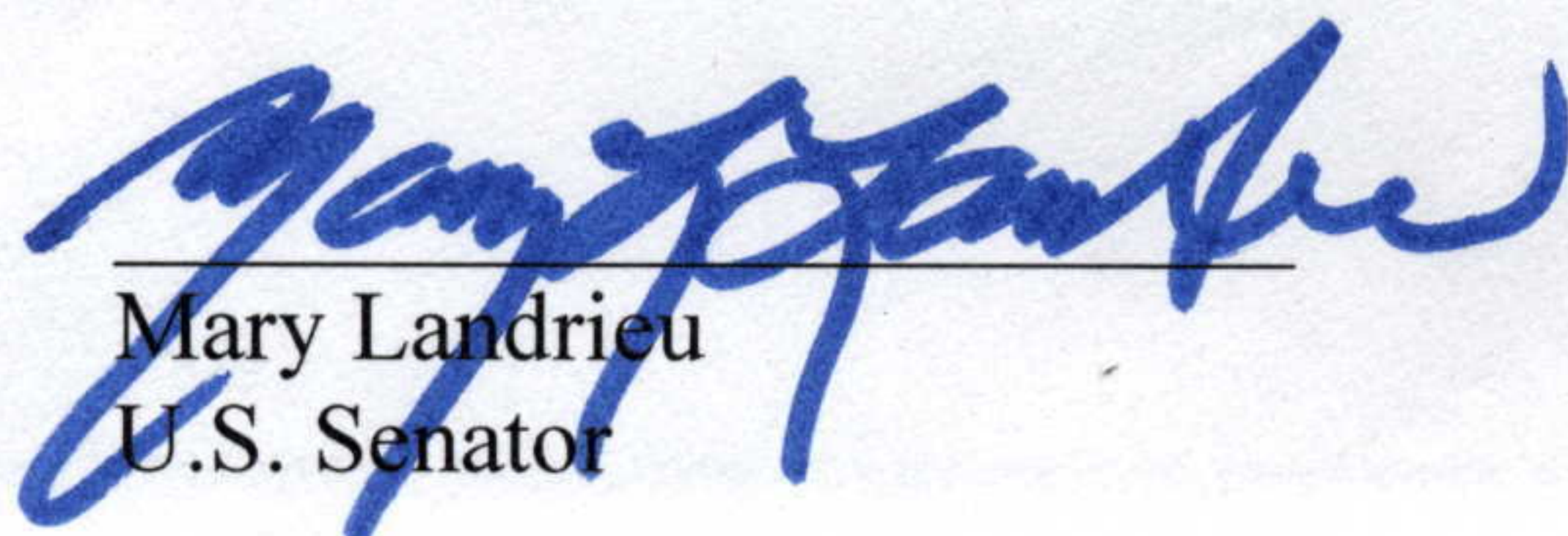
Mr. Gould:

The Louisiana oyster community began working with the Risk Management Agency (RMA) in July 2006 to obtain approval for an oyster insurance product. This industry has worked in good faith to resolve each concern presented by the expert reviewers and the RMA during both rounds of review. It appears we are close to a resolution that will allow the insurance program to begin with the 2009 sales season. We are hopeful Louisiana's oyster industry will become part of the RMA's crop insurance community.

We urge you and your staff to work diligently and in the spirit of cooperation to reach a positive conclusion in this matter. The successful resolution of all remaining issues is within our grasp. The industry is willing and able to make necessary modifications to satisfy any legitimate concerns raised by the RMA. All they ask is that all concerns be clearly stated.

We know you appreciate the importance of this insurance product to the oyster community and the economy of Louisiana. We respectfully ask that you and your Kansas City staff work to address all outstanding issues so the oyster community will have a risk management program available for the 2009 sales season. We look forward to working with you to clear up any outstanding issues in order to secure RMA's support for the oyster crop insurance program.

Sincerely,



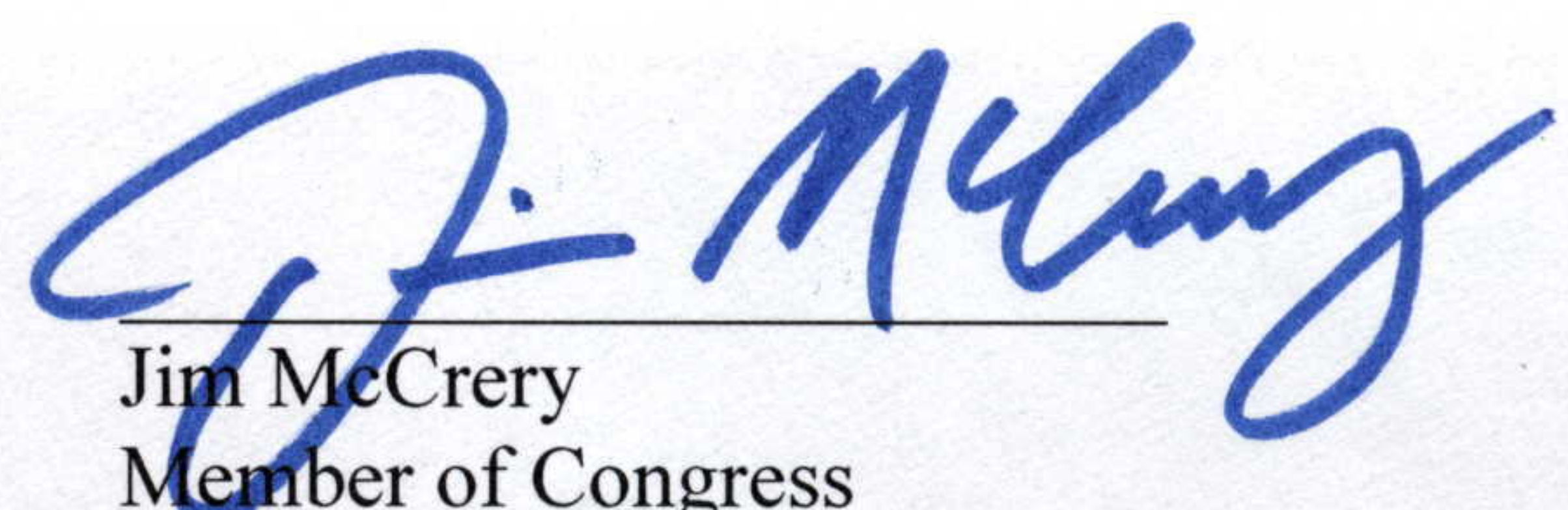
Mary Landrieu
U.S. Senator



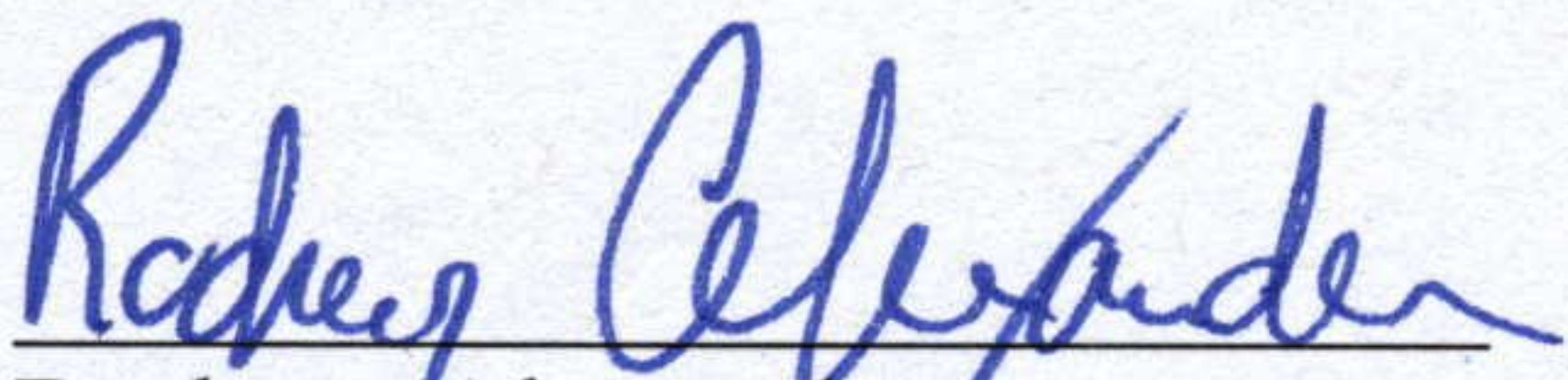
David Vitter
U.S. Senator



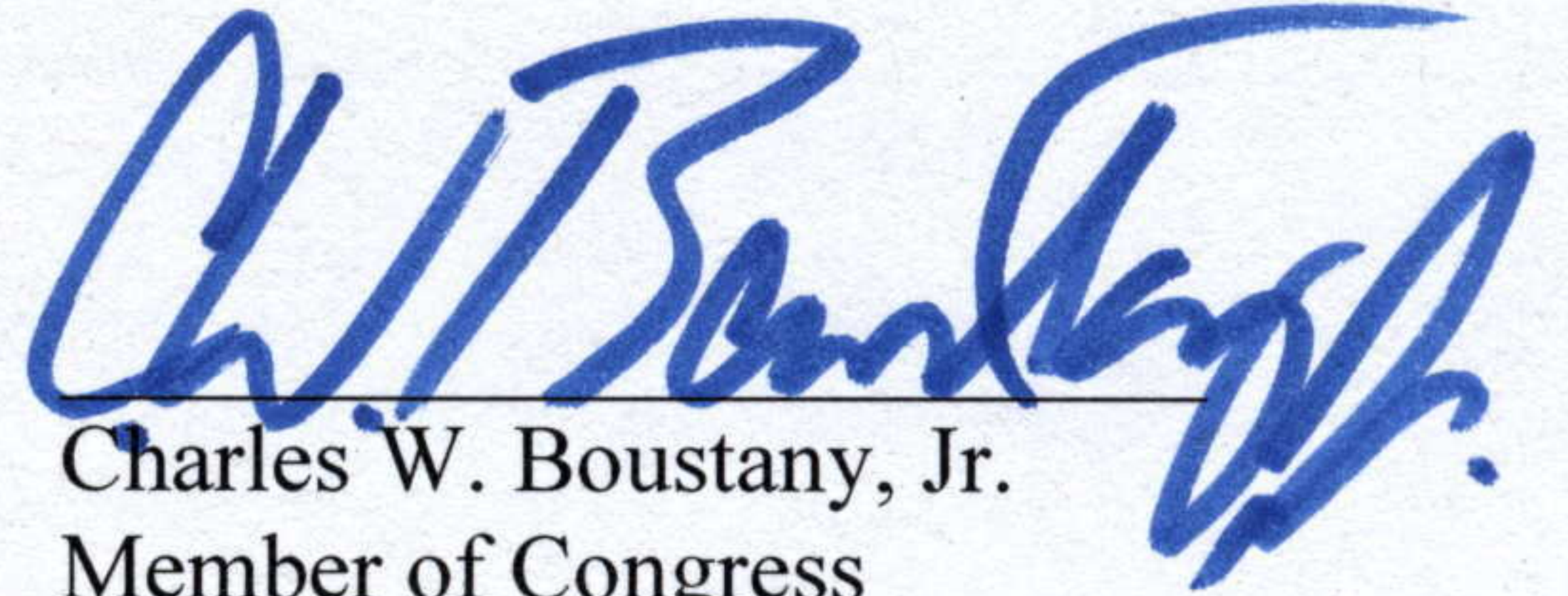
William J. Jefferson
Member of Congress



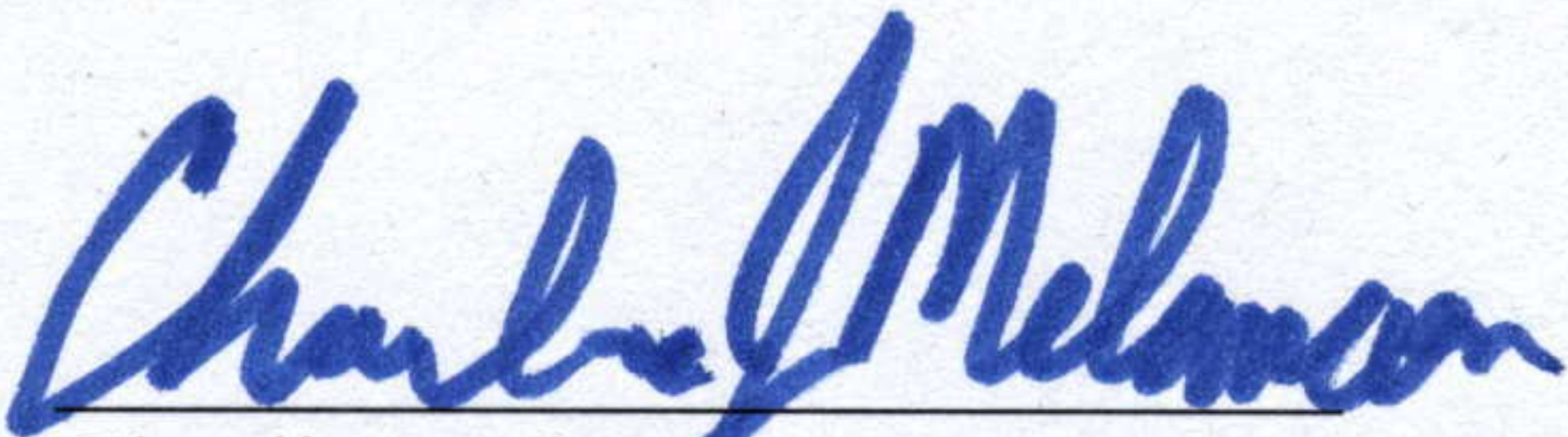
Jim McCrery
Member of Congress



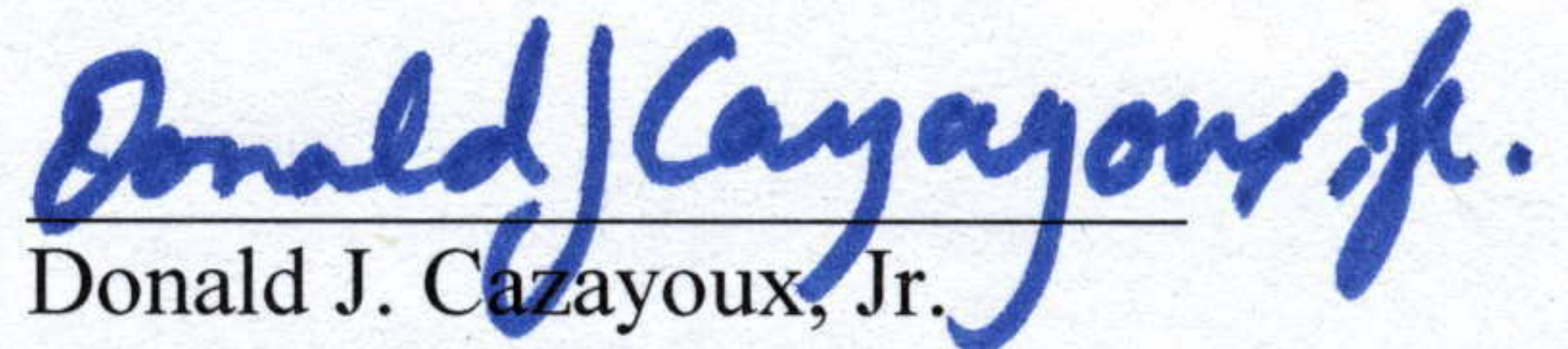
Rodney Alexander
Member of Congress




Charles W. Boustany, Jr.
Member of Congress



Charlie Melancon
Member of Congress



Donald J. Cazayoux, Jr.
Member of Congress



Steve Scalise
Member of Congress